

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**AUGUST 22, 2021**  
**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**ALIVE AGAIN CELEBRATION SUNDAY**

*Welcome: It's time to celebrate, we are in the presence of God. We invite you to joyfully prepare your hearts to receive God's love and to feel connected to the Body of Christ this day. Please take a moment to sign the pew pads. We'd like to keep you informed of what we are doing, so please give us your email, too.*

*All in attendance are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.*

\* Please stand as you are able.

**ELEVEN O'CLOCK**

**GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

**PRELUDE** **Elegy** Malcolm Archer  
(b. 1952)

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (RESPONSIVELY)

Leader: Whom do you seek here in this place?

**People: We seek God, the Creator, who brings us to life.**

Leader: Who has told you of God?

**People: Jesus Christ, God's Son, has shown us the love of God.**

Leader: Discipleship is difficult. Are you ready?

**People: We want to be ready. Lord, strengthen and sustain us this day. Amen.**

\* **OPENING HYMN No. 158 Come, Christians, Join to Sing**  
**SPANISH HYMN**

**OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR TWO-YEAR OLDS** Allison Moran and  
Vickie Sykes

**OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR SECOND GRADERS** Marcy McAdams

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (IN UNISON)

**We are here, Lord—children and grownups; teens and grandparents; young, middle-aged, and elderly.**

**We offer ourselves to you.**

**We offer the child among us and the child in us.**

**We offer the hopeful, visionary teens and youth and the dreams in each of us.**

**We offer the maturity of adults and the thoughtfulness of both young and old.**

**We offer the perspective and wisdom of elders and the insights of us all.**

**In Christ's name, we offer ourselves. Amen.**

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

See Insert

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Chuck and Carla Long

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, and times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (IN UNISON)

**Patient Lord, we are a culture that wants things to be quick and easy. It's difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. The words of Jesus take time for us to comprehend. Forgive us, Lord, when we are so impatient; when we just want to "get on with it," and be where the action is. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Please give us that extra measure of faith and commitment that we need to be the disciples you call us to be. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**PERSONAL CONFESSION AND MEDITATION** (IN SILENCE)

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Rest assured in God's presence and love for you, they will uphold and strengthen you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES**

All children are invited to gather at the chancel steps. Children ages 4 – first grade may then depart for Children's Church in Room 309.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (IN UNISON)

**O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** **Ephesians 6:10-20** NT Page 195

**SERMON** **"Alive Again"** Rev. Ross Carter

**GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

**OFFERTORY** **Song of the Wanderer** Dan Forrest  
William Inabnit, tenor (b. 1978)

The barren land around me lies, my flame is burning low:  
Cold and pale the winter skies, and I am far from home.  
With my light that burns so dim, am I visible to Him?  
Does He hear the fragile song of centuries here below?

He wakes the lark and bids her fly to greet the coming spring,  
Wakes our hearts and bids us rise then gives our spirits wing.  
He speaks and winter melts away, hears us when we come to pray,  
Turns our nighttime into day—our Light, our Life, our King.

Glorious joy of summer sun, the gentle healing rain,  
Banishing our tears and sighs, with beauty for our pain.  
Earth and sky, lay glory by—Christ the Lord, is drawing nigh!  
All creation, bow to Him, from whom all blessings flow!

Blows the wind, and soon will come the autumn of the year  
With its golden light of love still shining ever clear.  
From the rising of the sun, to the place where day is done,  
Peace on earth has now begun to cast away our fear.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

-Johanna Anderson

\* **DOXOLOGY** **LASST UNS ERFREUEN**

**All Singing:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,  
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! UMH No. 94

\* **THE APOSTLES' CREED** (IN UNISON) Page 881

\* **HYMN No. 670** **Go Forth for God** **GENEVA 124**

\* **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** **Festive Scherzo** Malcolm Archer

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Clara and Coy Clayton on their 63rd wedding anniversary by their family. They were married in the Front Street sanctuary on August 23, 1958.

We thank the following for their service during our worship service:

Lay Reader: Janet Van Sant  
 Acolyte: Dorothy Gail McKinney  
 Crucifer: Kennedy Joyce

**MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD** serving in August are Doris Jefferson, Linda Paul, Chris Presley, Ellen Ritter, Nancy Sain, and Susan Taylor.

**THE PRAYER REQUEST CARDS** are located on the tables in the narthex and may be placed in the offering plate or in the prayer request box in the narthex area, or you may email the prayer ministry team at prayer@frontstreetumc.org. A member of the prayer team will collect requests and offer prayers for requests given on the prayer request cards.

**ALIVE AGAIN**

Join us **this afternoon** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Webb Ave. parking lot for Alive Again! Here we will join in fun and fellowship for the whole family with a mini-food truck rodeo, ministry fair, and games for the children. This is a free event—we will be accepting donations for the food with all proceeds going to Youth missions. Everyone is welcome! Why not take this opportunity to invite a friend to join you? Please park in the Front/Davis St. parking lot and wear a mask.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Get set for another great year of Sunday School! Sunday School for children and youth resumes **Sunday, August 29** at 9:45 a.m.

**REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS NOW OPEN**

We are excited to announce that our children's choir and Wesley ringers will resume after an 18 month hiatus. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday afternoons beginning September 12.

Children's Choir (K-grade 5): 4:00 -5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary  
 Wesley Ringers (grades 2-5): 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Room 406

For more information or to register your child, visit [www.frontstreetumc.org/music](http://www.frontstreetumc.org/music). Please register by **August 30**.

Dr. Matt will need one adult helper for each of the choir rehearsals. Our Safe Sanctuary guidelines require that when working with children, two adults be present in the room. If you are interested in assisting in this way on a weekly or monthly basis, contact Dr. Matt at matt@frontstreetumc.org.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

| Date | Aldersgate | 11:00 | Total |
|------|------------|-------|-------|
| 7/25 | 32         | 114   | 146   |
| 8/1  | 28         | 104   | 132   |
| 8/8  | 38         | 112   | 150   |
| 8/15 | 36         | 99    | 135   |

SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 22, 2021**

**Sunday, August 22**

8:45 Aldersgate Contemporary Worship Aldersgate Hall  
 11:00 Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary  
 4:00 Alive Again! Webb Ave. Parking Lot

**Monday, August 23**

7:00 Stewardship Team Meeting Zoom

**Wednesday, August 25**

6:00 Aldersgate Praise Band Aldersgate Hall

**Thursday, August 26**

10:00 UMW Leadership Team Meeting Library/Room 305  
 7:00 Visioning Team Meeting Room 301

**Friday, August 27– Sunday, August 29**

UMYF Senior High Whitewater Rafting

**Sunday, August 29**

8:45 Aldersgate Contemporary Worship Aldersgate Hall  
 9:45 Sunday School Classrooms  
 11:00 Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary

**AFTERSCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN**

We are accepting applications for our Afterschool (grades K-5) and Underground (grades 6-8) programs! Please visit our website, [www.frontstreetumc.org/afterschool](http://www.frontstreetumc.org/afterschool) for more information and the application form, or contact Katie Porter at afterschool@frontstreetumc.org.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The following dates are available to place flowers in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one: **August 29 and September 5, 19, and 26**. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).

**THE UPPER ROOM**

The September-October issue of *The Upper Room* is available. Copies are located in the Welcome Center and Narthex.

**LIVE-STREAMING**

We are pleased to be able to live-stream our 11:00 a.m. worship each week for the benefit of those who are not able to be physically present. For those who would prefer to not be on camera, we endeavor to make the back half of the sanctuary a non-video zone. The balcony is also available for non-video seating. If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to speak with Pastor Ross.

**FRONT STREET  
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Our Mission:**

*Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ*

**ALIVE  
 AGAIN**

TURN  
 VIVE  
 CLAIM  
 AWAKEN  
 ENGAGE  
 ORIENT  
 FRESH  
 UNITE  
 JOICE

A Time to RE

**Pastors**

Rev. Ross Carter  
 Rev. Stephan Margeson

**Youth Minister**

Chris Huneycutt

**Minister of Visitation**

Leslie Peavy

**Organist/Director of Music**

Dr. Matt Brittain

**Director of Children's Ministries**

Marcella Z. McAdams